

Amendment 639 has been recategorized to Veteran Services & Soldiers Homes.

Amendments from Veterans' Services and Soldiers' Homes: 19, 77, 160, 180, 249, 279, 283, 330, 367, 378, 379, 419, 421, 499, 557, 631, 639, 640, 677, 748, 758, 761, 774, 783, 812, 816, 843, 898, 930, 965, 999, 1023, 1024, 1057, 1058, 1138, 1226, 1341, 1380, 1381, 1463, 1470, 1557, 1599

Amendments from Transitional Assistance: 172, 289, 342, 742, 802, 811, 821, 857, 868, 870, 872, 873, 1001, 1153, 1314, 1330, 1331, 1366, 1367, 1425, 1445, 1600

Amendments from Social Services: 17, 21, 79, 100, 106, 126, 218, 265, 270, 294, 295, 375, 457, 473, 478, 503, 527, 582, 621, 628, 629, 782, 785, 820, 860, 920, 944, 1021, 1045, 1114, 1120, 1127, 1149, 1206, 1243, 1308, 1309, 1332, 1355, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1392, 1395, 1414, 1422, 1448, 1465, 1490, 1491, 1590

Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop and others move to amend H.4900 in section 2, by striking item 1410-0010 and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

1410-0010      For the operation of the department of veterans' services; provided, that the department may fund a housing specialist from this item; provided further, that the department may expend funds for the Glory 54<sup>th</sup> Brigade; and provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the Korean War Veterans Committee of Massachusetts for the purpose of maintaining the Massachusetts Korean War Memorial located in the shipyard park of the Charlestown Navy Yard.....\$1,992,187

And move to further amend the bill in section 2 by striking item 1410-0012 and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

1410-0012      For services to veterans, including the maintenance and operation of outreach centers; provided, that the centers shall provide counseling to incarcerated veterans and to Vietnam era veterans and their families who may have been exposed to agent orange; provided further, that not less than \$80,000 shall be expended to United Veterans of America for the purpose of providing services to homeless veterans in Berkshire County; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be expended for the Veterans' Oral History Project at the Morse Institute Library in Natick; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Middleboro Veterans Outreach Center; provided further, that not less than \$30,000 shall be obligated for North Shore Veterans Counseling Services Inc. for Transitional Housing for homeless Veterans; provided further, that not less than \$292,480 shall be obligated for a contract with the Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center in the city of Gardner; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be obligated for a contract with NamVets of the Cape and Islands in the town of Hyannis; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for the Veterans Association of Bristol County in Fall River; provided further, that not less than \$140,000 shall be expended for the Puerto Rican Veterans Association of

Massachusetts, Inc., in the city of Springfield; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended to the Mason Square Area Veterans Outreach Center, so-called, in the city of Springfield; provided further, that not less than \$84,453 shall be obligated for a contract with the Metrowest/Metrosouth Outreach Center in the town of Framingham; provided further, not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for veterans' services to be administered by the Cape Cod Free Clinic and Community Heath Center; and provided further, that not less than \$228,771 shall be obligated for a contract with the Veterans Benefit Clearinghouse in the Roxbury section of Boston.....\$1,225,704

And move to further amend the bill in section 2 by striking item 1410-0250 and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

1410-0250     For homelessness services; provided, that not less than \$42,000 shall be obligated for a contract with the Turner House located in the town of Williamstown; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be obligated for a contract with the United Veterans of America shelter located in the town of Leeds; provided further, that not less than \$199,405 shall be obligated for a contract with Unity House in the city of Gardner; provided further, that not less than \$28,350 shall be obligated for a contract with the Homestead located in the town of Hyannis; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for transitional services at Our Neighbor's Table in Amesbury; provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for the Transition House located in the city of Springfield; provided further, that not less than \$51,975 shall be expended for a contract with the Springfield bilingual veteran outreach center for the operation and maintenance of a transitional housing unit at the YMCA of Springfield; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be obligated for contracts with the Veterans Hospice Homestead in the city of Leominster and the Veterans Hospice in the town of Fitchburg; provided further, that not less than \$475,105 shall be obligated for a contract with the Central Massachusetts Shelter for Homeless Veterans located in the city of Worcester; provided further, that not less than \$44,888 shall be obligated for a contract with the Mansion located in the city of Haverhill; provided further, that not less than \$190,000 shall be expended for a contract with Habitat P.L.U.S. in the city of Lynn; provided, that not less than \$100,350 shall be obligated for a contract with Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse located in Dorchester; provided further, that not less than \$73,350 shall be obligated for a contract with the Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse located in Roxbury; and provided further, that not less than \$352,395 shall be expended for the Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Transition Housing Program, Inc., located in the city of New Bedford.....\$2,057,818

And move further to amend the bill in section 2, in line item 4400-1000 by inserting at the end thereof the following:— “provided further, that a full-scale DTA office may remain in Cambridge or Somerville in a

location that is accessible by public transportation; and provided further, that said office shall be located by the department with due consideration to comparable size, space and rental agreement"

And move further to amend the bill in section 2, in line item 4400-1000 by inserting at the end thereof the following:— "provided further, that the department may expend funds from this item to improve phone systems to more effectively conduct phone communications including the interviews required for successful processing of initial food stamp applications; provided further, that the department may expend funds from this item to develop a system for more effective management of documents required for program eligibility including a system of electronic document imaging; and provided further, that the department may not require re-verification of eligibility factors previously verified and not subject to change"

And move to further amend the bill in section 2, in item 4403-2000, by inserting at the end thereof the following:— "provided further, that not less than \$418,074 shall be expended for the purposes of the operation of the Transportation Assistance Program operated by Traveler's Aid Family Services; and provided further, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for the Lift Transportation Program operated by the Traveler's Aid Family Services"

And move further to amend the bill in section 2, by striking out line item 4403-2120 and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

4403-2120 For certain expenses of the emergency assistance program as follows: (i) contracted family shelters; (ii) transitional housing programs; (iii) programs to reduce homelessness in Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket counties; (iv) residential education centers for single mothers with children; (v) intake centers; and (vi) voucher shelters; provided, that eligibility shall be limited to families with income at or below 130 per cent of the federal poverty level; provided, however, that any family whose income exceeds 130 per cent of the federal poverty level while the family is receiving assistance funded by this item shall not become ineligible for assistance due to exceeding the income limit for a period of 6 months from the date that the 130 per cent level was exceeded; provided further, that the department shall establish reasonable requirements for such families to escrow some or all of the portion of their income which exceeds 130 per cent of the federal poverty level; provided further, that any such escrowed funds shall be exempt from otherwise applicable asset limits; provided further that the family shall be allowed to withdraw the amount placed in escrow upon transition to permanent housing or losing eligibility for shelter services; provided further, that benefits under this item shall be provided only to residents who are citizens of the United States or aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence or otherwise permanently residing under color of law in the United States; provided further, that the department shall take all steps necessary to enforce regulations to prevent abuse in the emergency assistance program; provided further, that no emergency assistance expenditures shall be paid from this item unless explicitly authorized; provided further, that eligible households shall be placed in shelters as close as possible to their home community unless a household requests otherwise; provided further, if the closest available

placement is not within 20 miles of the household's home community, the household shall be transferred to an appropriate shelter within 20 miles of its home community at the earliest possible date unless the household requests otherwise; provided further, that eligibility for shelter by an otherwise eligible family shall not be impaired by prior receipt of any non-shelter benefit; provided further, that the department shall make every effort to insure that children receiving services from this item shall continue attending school in the community in which they lived prior to receiving services funded from this item; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for the Weymouth Youth and Family Services Teen Center to provide for advocacy, social service programs and to promote growth and social welfare; provided further, that notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, the department shall immediately provide shelter for up to 30 days to families who appear to be eligible for such shelter based on statements provided by the family and any other information in the possession of the department but who need additional time to obtain any third-party verifications reasonably required by the department; provided further, that the department shall not impose unreasonable requirements for third-party verification and shall accept verifications from the family whenever reasonable; provided further, that in promulgating, amending or rescinding regulations with respect to eligibility or benefits under this program, the department shall take into account the amounts available to it for expenditure in this item so as not to exceed the amount appropriated in this item; provided further, that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, 30 days before promulgating any such eligibility or benefit changes, the commissioner shall file with the house and senate committees on ways and means and with the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate a determination by the secretary of health and human services that available appropriations for the program will be insufficient to meet projected expenses and a report setting forth such proposed changes; provided further, that all of this item shall be subject to appropriation and, in the event of a deficiency, nothing in this item shall give rise to or shall be construed as giving rise to any enforceable right or entitlement to services in excess of the amounts appropriated by this item; provided further, that nothing in the preceding proviso shall authorize the department to alter eligibility criteria or benefit levels, except to the extent that such changes are needed to avoid a deficiency in this item; provided further, that the department shall report quarterly to the house and senate committees on ways and means an unduplicated count of families who apply for emergency assistance funded family shelter during the fiscal year; provided further that the report shall include the total number of applications received, the number of families approved for shelter, the number of families denied shelter along with reasons for denials, the number of families who are approved for shelter benefits within 12 months of an initial denial, the home community of families receiving shelter, the number of families receiving shelter within each home community, the

number of available shelter slots within each home community, the income level of families receiving shelter, the number of families receiving shelter who had previously accessed state-funded programs to reduce homelessness and the programs that had been accessed, the composition of families receiving shelter, the reason that the household is seeking emergency family shelter, the reasons that families exit shelters by type of reason, including reasons for voluntary departure and termination, exiting families' housing plans by type of plan, including type of housing arrangements, subsidy status, monthly rent, and gross monthly income, and any other information that the department determines to be necessary in evaluating the operation of the emergency assistance family shelters program; provided further, that the report shall also include information, by type of shelter, on average length of stay, average cost per household served, average number of shelter slots not used either as the result of no placement being made or of a placed family not making use of shelter, and an analysis of this data, including an analysis of causes relating to any significant differences in the data for each type of shelter; and provided further, that the report shall also include a status report on the outcomes of department-funded homelessness prevention initiatives, providing information on the nature and total cost of each such initiative, the number of families served by each such initiative, the average cost per family of each such initiative, the affordability and stability of housing or alternative shelter placements for prevention program recipients, including type of housing arrangement, subsidy status, monthly rent, and gross monthly income, and any other information that the department determines to be necessary in evaluating the operation of state-funded homeless prevention programs .....\$73,650,000

And move further to amend the bill in section 2, in line item 4406-3000 by inserting at the end thereof the following:— “and provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for a contract with the St. Francis Samaritan House in Taunton”

And move to further amend the bill in section 2, in item 4408-1000 by striking out the following words “30 days” and inserting in place thereof the following words:— “60 days”

And move to further amend the bill in section 2, by striking item 4800-0038 and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

4800-0038     For stabilization, unification, reunification, permanency, adoption, guardianship, and foster care services provided by the department of social services; provided, that services funded through this item shall include shelter services, substance abuse treatment, family reunification networks, young parent programs, parent aides, education and counseling services, family preservation services, foster care, adoption and guardianship subsidies, tiered reimbursements used to promote the foster care placement of children with special medical and social needs, assessment of the appropriateness of adoption for children in the care of

the department for more than 12 months, protective services provided by partnership agencies, targeted recruitment and retention of foster families, respite care services, post-adoption services, support services for foster, kinship and adoptive families; provided further, that \$250,000 shall be expended for juvenile firesetter programs; provided further, that any child who would have been eligible for a clothing benefit under regulations in place on January 1, 2005 shall receive a clothing benefit in fiscal year 2007; provided further, that the department shall report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on children and families by March 15, 2007 on the utilization of the transitional funds and the progress of the implementation of the department's reprocurd system of care; provided further, that not less than \$500,000 shall be expended on the recruitment and retention of foster parents; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended to support the family center component of the Greater Lowell Family Resource Center; provided further, that not less than \$348,000 shall be expended for Casa Esperanza; provided further, that not less than \$200,000 shall be expended for a statewide contract with Northeastern University for violence prevention and conflict resolution program; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Families United for Teens' Health; provided further, that not less than \$45,000 shall be expended for a contract with Big Brothers and Sisters of Cape Cod and the Islands; provided further, that no less than \$130,000 be expended to Children's Cove for medical and support services for pediatric victims of sexual and physical assault; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for Alive With Awareness, Knowledge, and Empowerment of Springfield, Massachusetts; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Multicultural Alzheimer's Services Project of Springfield, Massachusetts; provided further, that not less than \$250,000 shall be expended for the operation of a juvenile firesetters program to be operated by the Massachusetts Coalition for Juvenile Firesetters Intervention Programs; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for North End Outreach Network of Springfield, Massachusetts; provided further, that not less than \$104,000 shall be expended for the Teen Parenting program at Framingham High School; provided further, that not more than \$140,000 shall be expended for the Comprehensive School Age Parenting Program, Inc. for maintaining and expanding its year-round school based program in Boston high schools, middle schools, pilot schools and small schools education complexes for pregnant teens, young mothers and fathers and other youth at high risk for school drop out; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be expended for Family Service, Inc. of Lawrence; provided further, that not less than \$60,000 shall be expended by the Framingham office of the Department of Social Services for the Metrowest Campership program operated by the Ashland youth advisory board in partnership with said department; provided further, that not less than \$50,000 shall be

expended for the purpose of providing case management services for the Amity Transitional Housing Program in the city of Lynn; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the Massachusetts Association of Portuguese Speakers in Cambridge; provided further, that no less than \$298,000 be allocated for alternative schools for students aged 14-16 inclusive who are placed before the court on Children in need of services petitions (CHINS); provided further, that not less than \$300,000 shall be expended for Summerhill House in Norwood; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for the Concilio Hispano in Somerville; provided further, that not less than \$20,000 shall be expended for the Haitian Coalition of Somerville; provided, that not less than \$150,000 shall be expended for a contract with Julie's Family Learning Program in the South Boston section of the City of Boston; provided further, that not less than \$257,000 shall be expended for a contract with the Laboure Center for an integrated family services team in region 6; provided further, that not less than \$25,000 shall be expended for Centro Presente of Cambridge; provided further, that not less than \$125,000 shall be expended for a family re-unification program operated by Aid to Incarcerated Mothers to maintain strong parent-child relationships during a mother's incarceration; and provided further, that not later than February 17, 2007, the department shall provide to the house and senate committees on ways and means a recommendation on whether or not to discontinue any program, including earmarked programs, the cost of which, per unit of service or service outcomes, do not fall within a reasonable standard .....\$ 280,779,773

And move to further amend the bill in section 2, by striking item 4800-1400 and inserting in place thereof the following item:—

4800-1400     For shelters and support services for people at risk of domestic violence; provided, that the department shall pursue the establishment of public-private partnership agreements established for family stabilization services funded from sources other than the commonwealth; provided further, that services shall include supervised visitation programs, certified batterer intervention programs for indigent batterers and their families, and scattered site transitional housing programs, including programs to assist victims of domestic violence in finding and maintaining permanent housing; provided further, that participants in battered women's programs shall be provided with information regarding local transitional housing resources; provided further, that funding shall be made available to enhance counseling services for children who have witnessed domestic violence; provided further, that funding shall be made available for emergency shelters for substance abusing battered women; provided further, that funding shall be made available for a statewide domestic violence hotline; provided further, that the department shall continue to provide any match funding required by federal program regulations;

provided further, that domestic violence prevention specialists shall be funded from this item; provided further, that not less than \$90,000 shall be expended for the New England Learning Center for Women in Transition Survivor's Project in Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire Counties; provided further, that not less than \$10,000 shall be expended for the Melrose Alliance Against Violence; provided further, that not less than \$15,000 shall be expended for the Words not Weapons mentoring project in Saugus; provided further, that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for a contract with Sylvia's Haven at Devens to provide transitional housing to pregnant and parenting women and girls; and provided further, that not less than \$75,000 shall be expended for a domestic violence prevention program called 'Teens-At-Risk', operated by Portal To Hope for the communities of Everett, Lynn, Malden and Medford without the need of approval by the commissioner of public health.....\$21,088,691